DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



March 28, 2003

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

[] State Law Change
[] Federal Law or Regulation
Change
[] Court Order
[] Clarification Requested by
One or More Counties

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE IN ENSURING NONDISCRIMINATION

In September 2001, the California Department of Social Services published ACIN I-75-01 to remind you that we were available to assist you in any way we could to help you address backlash against individuals who are or are perceived to be of Middle Eastern descent.

In light of the initiation of the most recent War in Iraq, we once again remind you that we continue to be available to assist you in support of your efforts to ensure that everyone, regardless of ethnicity, national origin or religious belief, continues to be treated in a culturally sensitive manner. We also suggest that you be cognizant of any backlash against those individuals who are or are perceived to be from those countries which may not have aligned themselves with the United States in the War effort. This sensitivity is especially important in the delivery of benefits and services. Through both individual and united efforts, we can help each other and the people we serve through these challenging times.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Christine Webb-Curtis, Chief, Civil Rights Bureau, at (916) 654-2196.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

RITA SAENZ Director